

The year is 1775 and the King of Spain wants many Spanish people to move up into the new strange lands called Alta California where Native Americans have lived for thousands of years. The King is afraid that some other countries may take the land away from Spain if no Spanish people are living there. If Spanish people are living there other countries will know that the land belongs to the Crown of Spain.

I have lived in the northern part of New Spain all my life and I'm not sure that I want to move. The King has sent his representative to ask us to move. So we are going on a long trip by land to Alta California. Our leader on this trip will be Captain Juan Bautista de Anza. He is well known and has been to Alta California before. The trip will not be easy, but Captain Anza will see us through I'm sure.

There is much to do before we can start. There will be soldiers, priests, muleteers, vaqueros, scouts, servants, interpreters, farmers, wives and children. This will be close to three hundred people all together. We will need 340 horses, 165 mules, and 302 beef cattle. When everything is gathered and we are all packed we will meet at the Tubac Presidio to start our trip.

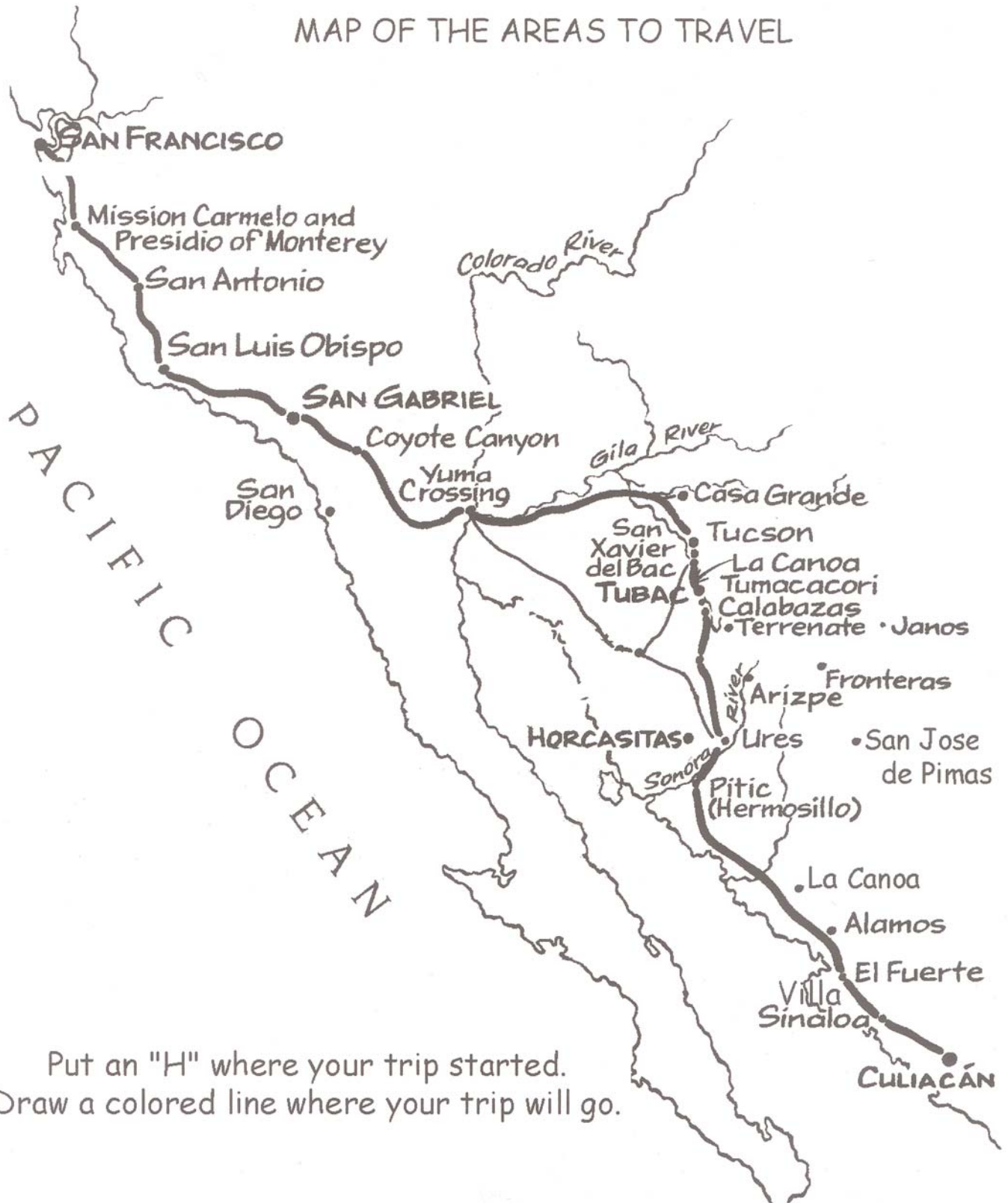
After we all get to Tubac the rest of the trip will be in four stages. First we will leave Tubac to go to the Gila River. From the Gila River we will travel to the Colorado River. After we cross the Colorado River we will cross the desert to the Mission at San Gabriel in Alta California. From Mission San Gabriel we will reach the Pacific Ocean and travel north to Monterey. For most of us our final destination is San Francisco Bay. There we will build a new presidio and mission.

The Second Anza Expedition to Alta California

My name is _____. I am going on a long trek to Alta California from my home in _____, New Spain. I will be keeping this Journal as I travel.

First I will tell you a little about myself.

MAP OF THE AREAS TO TRAVEL



My favorite desert plant is _____

because _____

My favorite desert animal is

because _____

Where did my ancestors come from?

_____ years ago humans arrived on the continents of North and South America. These people developed many different cultures according to their environment. Today we call them the Native Americans.

In _____ Columbus arrived on the outer islands of the mid-Atlantic coast of this continent and claimed the land for the Crown of Spain. A few years later in _____, Cortez brought a small Spanish army to Mexico City and colonized that area. He brought the Spanish way of doing things. The Native Americans were to speak Spanish, eat Spanish, dress Spanish, and learn the Spanish religion. The Spanish way of doing this was to bring Catholic missionaries, soldiers, and farmers from Spain. The Spanish moved north and south from Mexico City and by _____ they were ready to settle Alta California.

By this time, most of the Spanish people in New Spain had been born in the New World. Most of the people thought of themselves as Spanish, but many of these people had Native American, or African ancestors. In _____, Anza received permission from the Viceroy to explore a new overland route to California. In _____, 240 of these Spanish people from the Sonora and Sinaloa area of New Spain went with Captain Anza to Alta California where they would live and make a new life for themselves.

Daily Travel:

Each day we follow a routine while we are traveling. First we get up and dress. Then we go to Mass. After Mass we eat our breakfast of atole (gruel of ground corn) and chocolate. Our tent and provisions must be packed on the mules, but of course the muleteers must be able to gather the mules first. Many nights the mules have strayed while grazing and they must be led back to the campsite. If all is ready the commander tells us to start. Some of us walk instead of riding on horseback. If the weather has been cold it feels better to walk anyway.

As we start along we all sing the “Alabado.” We have brought along snacks to eat if we get hungry. We will not stop to eat until we reach this night’s new campsite. The new site should have good water and grass for the animals to graze on. Once a good place has been found the mules and horses must be unpacked and the tents set up. Dinner is prepared for we are all hungry. If no meat has been found to shoot along the trail we may kill one of the beef cattle for dinner to put in our sopa (a stew of beans and meat) which we eat with tortillas. If it has been a short travel day Father Font may play his instrument for us to enjoy. Usually we are so tired at the end of the day that after dinner we go right to bed.

Some days if water was scarce we will travel hard all day and then the next morning we will hurry to the next good waterhole. Capt. Anza will then let us stop early so we can rest.

The next day will be like before. There will be new sights to see and new problems to solve during the many leagues we travel. Then we will do it all again until we finally get to Monterey..²⁸

Provisions:

There will be many provisions taken by mule packs for everyone. Here is a list of some of those items. Read them over and then list things that you will need to take for yourself. Remember, everything you take you must carry yourself, unless you have a mule of your own. Next, think of some things that you may not need but would like to have with you. Maybe, these are things that would remind you of your home back in Mexico.

Items packed for everyone's use: ten tents, blankets, pinole (corn-meal), beans, chiles, barley, chocolate, brandy, jerked beef, shoe iron (for horse shoes), tools to work on trails and to dig for water, ammunition, guns, knives, beads and tobacco for gifts for the natives, pots to cook with, extra clothes, medicines.

Items you will have to bring along :

Items you would like to bring along :

Journal Page:

As you travel on this trek from Yuma to the San Luis Obispo Mission you will meet some problems. Your leader will send out a scout to find your first stop. The scout will then return to your group and lead you to the next stop on your trek. As your group comes to each stop on your trek, read the problem that has arisen and decide what your group thinks would be the best solution to the problem. Write a brief description of your solution beside the appropriate letter in your journal.

Your scout will find the next stop and come back to lead you forward. Then draw a pencil line from your first stop to the next stop. Continue as above until you have been to all five stations and connected all letters.

A.

B.

E.

C.

D.

A._____

B._____

C._____

D._____

E._____

The connected letters should look like a five pointed star..36

You have arrived at your final destination. You need to write a letter for Commander Anza to take back to Sonora for your friends or relatives left behind. The letter should tell them about your trip.

(Use at least two of these sentence starters in your letter)

Sentence starters:

This trip has been.....

One of the most interesting things I saw.....

I was really afraid when

I think you would like Alta California because

July 1776

San Francisco, Alta California

New Spain

Dear _____
